Study of Communities Claiming ST Status

1168. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) whether Government have in-house expertise to study various communities who claim tribal status;

(b) if so, what are the institutes which Government turn to for studies and surveys on communities seeking Scheduled Tribe status, alongwith details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that in-house research has been slow and tardy; and

(d) what alternatives does his Ministry have to get full data on any community seeking ST status?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Modalities approved by the Govt. envisage consultation with the State Govt. concerned, the Registrar General of India and the National Commission for SCs and STs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Wherever required the Govt. also consults the Anthropological Survey of India in the matter.

Misappropriation of Funds Meant for Tribal Development

†1169. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madhya Pradesh has been misappropriating the funds provided by the Centre for tribal development for the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken by the Central Government for preventing this;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.